

**Interpretation IC 170-2013-11 of
ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170-2013
Ventilation of Health Care Facilities**

Date Approved: January 31, 2017

Request from: Chris P. Rousseau, Newcomb & Boyd, Atlanta, GA 30303.

Reference: This request for interpretation refers to the requirements in ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170-2013, Table 7.1, regarding temperature requirements in the Sterile Processing Department (Addendum h to ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170-2013).

Background: Addendum h, published on June 1, 2016, included a design temperature range for Decontamination Rooms of 60 deg F and 73 deg F. Some have concluded that the intent is to require all HVAC systems serving Decontamination Rooms to have sufficient capacity to cool the space down to 60 deg F. This is difficult and expensive. It is unclear if Decontamination Rooms must be able to be maintained at any point within this range, or if they just need to be maintained somewhere in the range, with the Hospital deciding the best temperature for their operation.

(Note: Addendum h to ANSI/ASHRAE/ASHE Standard 170-2013 is available for free download on the ASHRAE website at <https://www.ashrae.org/standards-research--technology/standards-addenda>.)

Interpretation: It is ASHRAE's intent that individual health care providers determine the design point within this range for their individual decontamination rooms.

Question: Is this interpretation correct?

Answer: Yes.